



Testimony Of The

Greater Danbury Chamber of Commerce

**Before the Legislature's
Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee
Wednesday, March 9, 2016
11:00 AM, Room 2E, Legislative Office Building**

RE: HB 5595 AAC The Research and Development Tax Credit.

Good Morning. My name is Stephen Bull and I am the President of the Greater Danbury Chamber of Commerce. We represent more than 1,000 employers in the Greater Danbury area. They employ more than 100,000 men and women.

The Greater Danbury Chamber of Commerce supports HB 5595 AAC The Research and Development Tax Credit.

The Greater Danbury Chamber of Commerce supports HB 5595 and asks the Committee to take favorable action on the bill which restores the utilization of the Research and Development tax credit program back to the original 70 percent threshold.

We support consistent tax policies that foster a stable and predictable environment for businesses across the state to grow and invest in the economy and workforce. These policies, especially the research and development tax credit, create a competitive environment that helps Connecticut maintain its status as a center of equivalence for research and development. Most businesses apply long-term strategic business plans 5-10 years into the future. Changes in tax policy such as the reduction in the utilization of tax credits hamper the ability to plan and make long-term business decisions.

Tax credits like research and development are earned by in-state companies who make investments and create direct and indirect jobs to support the economy, while allowing the State to have a significant return on these types of investments. We respectfully emphasize to the Committee that the research and development tax credit program has provided Connecticut with a significant Return on Investment (ROI) since its inception. Based on Department of Revenue Services (DRS).

This completes my testimony. Thank you for your time and consideration.